

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1, 8 and 9 cancel claims 18 and 19 and add new claims 20 to 28 such that the claim set reads as follows:

1. (currently amended) An IOL comprising:  
  
an a liquid form optic;  
  
a haptic;  
  
a flexible membrane substantially encircling the optic and connected between the optic and the haptic to space the haptic from the optic, the flexible membrane having a flexibility greater than the optic and greater than the haptic.
2. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is discontinuous about the optic.
3. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is formed of a plurality of membranes each extending along a section of the circumference about the optic such that the plurality of membranes together substantially encircle the optic.
4. (original) The IOL of claim 3 wherein the plurality of membranes are independent from each other.
5. (original) The IOL of claim 3 including gaps formed between at least some of the plurality of membranes.
6. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the haptic is discontinuous about the optic.

7. (original) The IOL of claim 5 wherein the haptic includes gaps adjacent the gaps of the membrane.
8. (currently amended) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is formed of two membranes each extending along a section of the circumference about the optic such that the ~~plurality of~~ two membranes together substantially encircle the optic.
9. (currently amended) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is formed of four membranes each extending along a section of the circumference about the optic such that the ~~plurality of~~ four membranes together substantially encircle the optic.
10. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is formed at an angle relative to a plane through the optic.
11. (original) The IOL of claim 10 wherein the membrane forms a frustoconical surface tapering at an angle relative to the plane of the optic.
12. (original) The IOL of claim 11 wherein the angle is between about 5 to 15 degrees.
13. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the membrane is supported by a support ring attached about the membrane's outer edges.
14. (original) The IOL of claim 13 wherein the support ring is formed of segments.
15. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the haptic is plate shaped.
16. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the haptic is frog leg shaped.
17. (original) The IOL of claim 1 wherein the haptic is pie shaped.
18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (new) An IOL comprising:

an optic;

a haptic including a plurality of segments spaced apart at their ends forming spaces therebetween; and

a flexible membrane substantially encircling the optic and connected between the optic and the haptic to space the haptic from the optic, the flexible membrane having a flexibility greater than the optic and greater than the haptic and formed of a plurality of membranes each extending along a section of the circumference about the optic with gaps formed between at least some of the plurality of membranes such that the plurality of membranes together substantially encircle the optic; and wherein the spaces of the haptic are positioned adjacent the gaps between the plurality of membranes.

21. (new) The IOL of claim 20 wherein the plurality of membranes includes two membranes.

22. (new) The IOL of claim 20 wherein the plurality of membranes includes four membranes.

23. (new) The IOL of claim 20 wherein the optic is a solid form.

24. (new) An IOL comprising:

an optic;

a haptic; and

a flexible membrane substantially encircling the optic and connected between the optic and the haptic, the flexible membrane having a flexibility greater than the optic and greater than the haptic and the flexible membrane being formed of four

sub-membranes each extending along a section of the circumference about the optic such that the four sub-membranes together substantially encircle the optic.

25. (new) The IOL of claim 24 wherein the optic is a solid form.

26. (new) An IOL comprising:

an optic;

a haptic;

a flexible membrane substantially encircling the optic and connected between the optic and the haptic, the flexible membrane having a flexibility greater than the optic and greater than the haptic; and

a support ring attached about the flexible membrane's outer edges to support the flexible membrane, the support ring being formed of segments.

27. (new) The IOL of claim 26 wherein the optic is a solid form.

28. (new) The IOL of claim 26 wherein the support ring segments are positioned between slits in at least one of the flexible membrane and the haptic.